

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 SSM-05 AID-05 /111 W
-----102903 050626Z /10

R 041020Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7433
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS BEIRUT 1859

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UN, LE, MOPS
SUBJECT: TEXT OF ASSAD'S MESSAGE TO SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL TRANSLATION FROM THE FRENCH OF
FULL TEXT, AS REPORTED IN L'ORIENT LE-JOUR, OF SPEAKER
KAMAL AL ASSAD'S APRIL 2 LETTER TO SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM
ASKING THE LATTER TO INCREASE THE STRENGTH OF UNIFIL:

2. BEGIN TEXT: "HAVING HAD ON THE OCCASION OF OUR MEETING IN
BEIRUT APPRECIATED YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE CAUSE OF PEOPLE
ATTACHED TO PEACE, SECURITY AND JUSTICE, AND COUNTING ON YOUR
TIRELESS EFFORTS AIMED AT RESTORING THE NOBLE AND GRANT IDEAS WHICH
CONSTITUTE THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, I AM
TODAY OFFERING MYSELF AS THE INTERPRETER OF THE WORRY AND
PROFOUND ANGUISH THAT MY COMPATRIOTS FEEL IN THE FACE OF THE
DRAMATIC TRIALS THAT OUR COUNTRY IS SUFFERING AS A RESULT OF
THE DRASTIC SITUATION IN SOUTH LEBANON.

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3. "THE THIRD PARAGRAPH OF THE RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON MARCH
19, 1978, BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL FOR SENDING AN ITERIM FORCE TO THE
REGION OF SOUTH LEBANON STIPULATES THAT THESE FORCES SHALL
BE CHARGED WITH RE-ESTABLISHING PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL
SECURITY AND WITH HELPING THE GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON RESTORE
IOUNEFFECTIVE AUTHORITY IN THE REGION.

4. "THE U.N. WITHOUT DOUBT ALREADY KNOWS AS WELL AS WE DO THE TRAGIC PLIGHT OF SOUTH LEBANON, AND THE U.N. CONSEQUENTLY KNOWS THE INHERENT DIFFICULTIES IN APPLYING THESE RESOLUTIONS. WITH REGARD TO THE U.N. FORCES, WHATEVER THEIR STRENGTH, THEY SHOULD TAKE ON THE CHARACTER OF A STRIKE FORCE. FOR IF STRIPPED OF THE CHARACTER OF DISSUASION, THEY WOULD BECOME INOPERATIVE REGARDLESS OF THEIR STRENGTH, AND RESOLUTION 425 DESPITE THE NOBLE INTENTIONS OF THE AUTHORS WOULD CONSEQUENTLY LOSE ALL EFFECTIVENESS.

5. "GIVEN THIS TRUTH AND ALL THE EVENTUALITIES WHICH COULD EFFECT THE CURRENT SITUATION, GIVEN THAT THE DETERMINATION OF THE NECESSARY FORCES IS A QUESTION WHOSE ESTIMATE DEPENDS ON THE EXECUTIVE AUTHORITY OF THE UNITED NATIONS, AND GIVEN THAT THE EFFECTIVE

APPLICATION OF THE RESOLUTION WOULD DEMAND NECESSARILY AND INCREASE IN THE INTERIM FORCES TO GIVE THEM THE POWER TO FULFILL THE ABOVE STATED DOUBLE MISSION, WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL TO YOU FOR TAKING THE NECESSARY MEASURES COMPATIBLE WITH THE PRESENT SITUATION PREVAILING ON THE GROUND." END TEXT.

6. COMMENT: AS REPORTED IN BEIRUT PRESS APRIL 4, RIGHTIST LEADERS CAMILLE CHAMOUN AND PIERRE GEMAYEL HAVE BOTH ENDORSED ASSAD'S APPEAL AND HAVE CALLED FOR U.N. FORCES STRONGER THAN PRESENTLY ON THE SCENE OR PLANNED.

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: MILITARY BUILDUP, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FORCE & TROOP LEVELS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: MOPS, LE, UN, UNIFIL, (WALDHEIM, KURT), (AL-ASSAD, KAMAL)
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